

PO Box 704 Washburn, WI 54891

June 28, 2019

Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary, US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation (BCEDC) supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The BCEDC recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region's economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways. Although the BCEDC operates under limited annual budgets, our organization pledges \$500.00 to partner on this BASED project, should it be awarded to Bayfield County.

Please fund Bayfield County's BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Cole Rabska

Executive Director

Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation

Visions Northwest

Wisconsin Business Innovation Corporation 1400 South River Street | Spooner, WI 54801 | 715-635-2197

April 4, 2019

Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary, US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

Visions Northwest Regional Economic Development supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

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Visions Northwest recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region's economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County's BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Crystal Rohde

Visions Northwest Administrator

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April 4, 2019

Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary, US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Northern Wisconsin Wood Industry Collaborative supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. The Wood Industry Collaborative is a unique partnership involving two state economic development regions looking to advocate and promote business growth through advancing existing and emerging markets in order to ensure the success of northern Wisconsin's largest industry. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin. Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The Wood Industry Collaborative recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region's economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County's BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Crystal Rohde Administrator